

## Vegetables, Melons, and Potatoes

Arizona has a unique place in the agricultural industry in that it is capable of producing an ever increasing variety of vegetables nearly year round. With mild winters in the lower elevations and the cooler summer temperatures in the higher elevations, Arizona produces an impressive variety of vegetables and melons throughout the year. Nationally, Arizona ranked third in the production of fresh market vegetables and second to only California in the production of head lettuce, leaf and romaine lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, cantaloupes and honeydews.

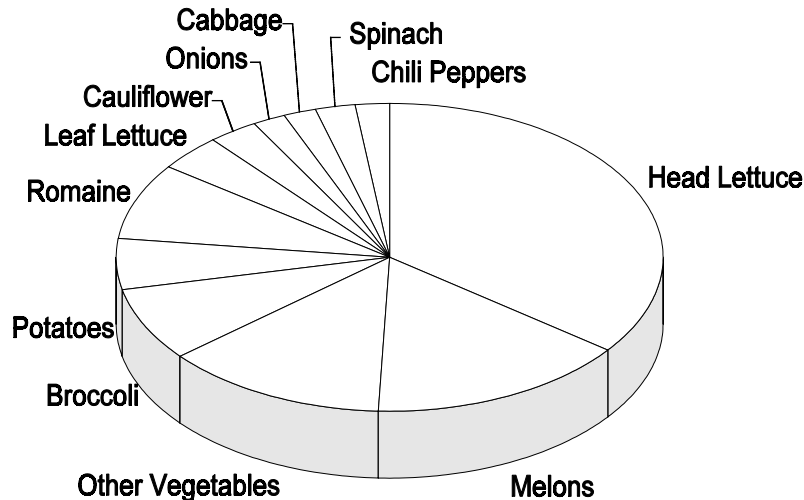
During 2001, 154,400 harvested acres were devoted to vegetables (including potatoes) and melon crops in Arizona; an increase of 1 percent from a year earlier. Western head lettuce was the leader in acreage with 52,000 acres harvested, an increase of 1,700 acres from 2000. Cantaloupe acreage totaled 14,600, down 300 from the

previous year and the second ranking crop in terms of acreage harvested. Crops showing increases in acreage from a year earlier include romaine lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, leaf lettuce and other head lettuce. Major vegetable crops with acreage below the previous year include watermelons, cantaloupes, honeydews, potatoes, and onions.

The total value of all vegetables produced in Arizona during 2001 totaled \$874 million, an increase of 22 percent from the previous year. With the exception of cauliflower, cantaloupe and honeydew, the primary vegetables and melons reflected increases in receipts.

“Miscellaneous” and “other” vegetables were harvested from 20,200 acres, with a value of \$95 million, which represents 11 percent of the total value of all vegetables produced in Arizona.

### Vegetable & Melon Harvested Acres 2000-01 Season



154,400 Total Acres